

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 1 has been amended to improve form and to incorporate therein the limitations of dependent claim 4/3 and the latter has been canceled. A typographical error in the preamble of claim 7/1 has been corrected. Further, new claims 11-13 are added to afford a varying scope of protection for the invention.

No new matter is presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the amended and new claims are respectfully requested.

**ITEM 2: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-4 AND 6 FOR ANTICIPATION UNDER 35 USC § 102(b)
BY HIRATA ET AL.**

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner rejects claim 4, referring to Fig. 8 of Hirata, asserting "that the first and second edge parts extend at an oblique angle of about 45 degrees...with respect to the extension direction of the first and second electrodes and substantially parallel to each other." (Action at page 3) However, Fig. 8 of Hirata, which is merely a schematic diagram of a plasma display panel, clearly does not illustrate an angle formed between the first edge part and the extension direction of the first electrode, of 45° or which falls within the angular range of $30^\circ \leq \theta \leq 60^\circ$, which is the condition to be satisfied by the angle θ of the present invention as now recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 are allowable over Hirata.

As described above, according to the plasma display device of the present invention, the first edge part is provided to form an angle θ satisfying $30^\circ \leq \theta \leq 60^\circ$ with respect to the direction in which the first electrode extends. As described in the specification, by thus forming the edge part of each discharge electrode, the required length (150-200 μm) of the discharge gap can be secured while a desired gap (90 μm) can be secured between the discharge electrode and its adjacent rib (partition wall) within a predetermined pitch (300 μm), for instance) between the discharge electrodes or the ribs (see page 5, lines 12-21 and Figs. 5; page 9, lines 3-21 and Fig. 7; page 10, lines 7-29 and Fig. 8; page 10, line 35 through page 11, line 6 and Fig. 8; and page 13, lines 9-24 and Fig. 10).

New claims 9 and 10, dependent on claim 1, specifically set forth the above-described features of the present invention and, further, patentably distinguish over Hirata.

ITEM 3: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 3, 4, 7, AND 8 UNDER 35 USC § 102(e) FOR ANTICIPATION BY KOSHIO

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended, as explained above, to recite the condition of $30^\circ \leq \theta \leq 60^\circ$.

It is respectfully submitted that Koshio fails to teach that the first edge part forms an angle θ with respect to the direction in which the first electrode extends, the angle θ satisfying a condition $30^\circ \leq \theta \leq 60^\circ$. To the contrary, the angle addressed by the Action is, at most, 20° , well below the lower limit of the range in accordance with the invention. (See attached copy of page bearing Figs. 8 (and Figs. 9 and 10) of Koshio.)

Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 1, 3, 5, 7, and 8 are allowable over Koshio.

NEW INDEPENDENT CLAIM 11 AND DEPENDENT CLAIMS 12/11 AND 13/12

New independent claim 11 combines limitations of claims 1 and 5 and reads on the configurations of the third and fourth embodiments.

Koshio fails to teach that the first and second edge parts are defined by a plurality of sides forming angles with respect to the direction in which the first and second electrodes extend, respectively.

According, it is submitted that claim 11 is allowable over Koshio.

New dependent claims 12 and 13 correspond to claims 9 and 10 and, as noted above relative to claims 9 and 10, afford additional protection for the invention.

ITEM 5: REJECTION OF CLAIM 2 FOR OBVIOUSNESS UNDER 35 USC § 103(a) OVER HIRATA ET AL.

Since claim 2 is dependent on claim 1, it is submitted that claim 2 will be allowable along with the allowance of claim 1, the patentability of which has been demonstrated and explained hereinabove.

CONCLUSION

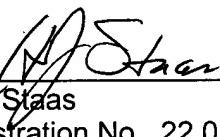
There being no other objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

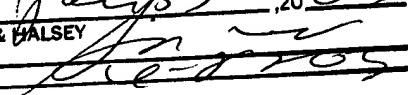
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 21, 2003.
By: 
STAAS & HALSEY
Date: June 21, 2003